

Laura A Sykora 2005 JAN 20 Manager Regulatory Affairs - VA/TN

T.R.A. DOCKET ROOM,

January 19, 2005

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Chairman Pat Miller Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

CapTel Services for the Hard-of-Hearing and the Late Deafened Citizens of Tennessee RE: Docket No. 05-00014

Dear Chairman Miller:

Sprint files the following Comments on behalf of United Telephone-Southeast, Inc., and Sprint Communications Company L.P. in response to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority's Notice of Filing Comments dated January 14, 2005 regarding CapTel Services in Tennessee.

As Sprint has commented in previous proceedings, the funding for the provision of relay services should be competitively neutral. The current relay services offered in Tennessee are funded by the incumbent local exchange carriers and the inter-exchange carriers. Sprint would encourage the TRA to review and modify the Tennessee Relay Service funding mechanism (Dual Party Relay System, Docket No. 89-03796) to be more competitively neutral and to move quickly to bring the CapTel service capability to the citizens of Tennessee.

Sprint currently provides CapTel for twenty states and the Federal Government. As a provider of this service, Sprint would welcome the opportunity to respond to a Request for Proposal (RFP).

Sincerely,

Laura A. Sykora

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C: **Edward Phillips** Kaye Odum